To: Members of the Banking Committee

Fr: Connecticut Bankers Association

Contacts: Tom Mongellow, Fritz Conway

Re: HB 5560: An Act Concerning Personal Information

Position: Oppose

This bill would give an individual the right to compel businesses in Connecticut (including banks and retail stores, among others) to delete the computerized records evidencing the individual's credit and debit card transactions. The bill is ill conceived and would have many troubling consequences.

As you might expect, banks are required by federal and state law to maintain accurate records of all customer transactions for accounting, collection, and regulatory oversight purposes. Banks and retail merchants are also required to keep transaction records under network rules (Visa, MasterCard, etc.) for purposes of transaction verification, processing store returns and refunds, and fraud detection and prevention. This bill could disrupt all of those legitimate and important functions. The bill would also allow criminals, such as identity thieves, to wipeout transaction records related to criminal activities, frustrating the efforts of law enforcement. For those reasons, and more, the CBA strongly opposes HB 5560.